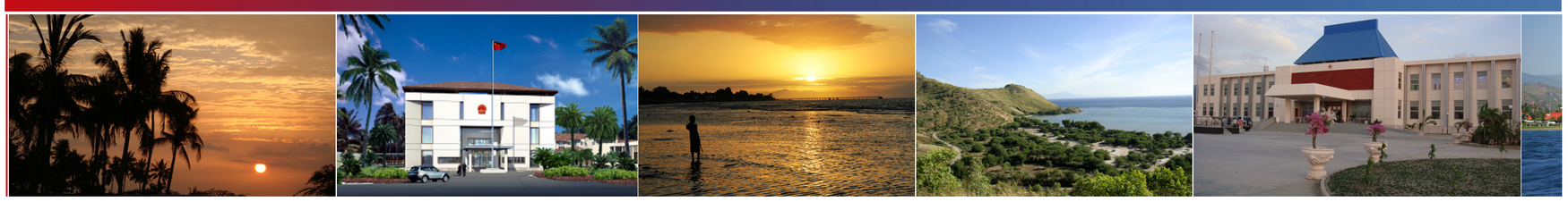

Wang Yang Meets with Foreign Officials Attending Second China-Pacific Island Countries Economic Development and Cooperation Forum

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On Nov. 7, 2013, Vice Premier of the State Council Wang Yang met respectively in Guangzhou with President Emanuel Mori of the Federated States of Micronesia, Samoan Prime Minister Tuilaepa Lupesoliai Sailele Malielegaoi, Prime Minister Peter O'Neill of Papua New Guinea, Prime Minister Moana Carcasses of Vanuatu, Prime Minister Henry Puna of the Cook Islands, Prime Minister Siale'ataonga Tu'ivakano of Tonga, Premier Toke Talagi of Niue, Fiji's Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests and Rural and Maritime Development Inia Seruiratu, Secretary General Tuiloma Neroni Slade of Pacific Islands Forum, and other foreign officials who attended the Second China-Pacific Island Countries Economic Development and Cooperation Forum.

Wang Yang welcomed officials of various countries to attending the forum. Wang Yang said that China has always attached great importance to developing relations with the Pacific Island countries, and regards them as good friends and partners. With the joint efforts of both sides, China's relations with the Pacific Island countries have made substantial progress in recent years. China has fully implemented various measures announced in the first forum in 2006 to support the economic and social development of Pacific Island countries, and carried out a large number of cooperation projects, achieving good results. China will closely cooperate with the island countries, continue to implement projects under construction, and give greater play to the economic and social benefits of these projects.

Wang Yang said that the second forum held in Guangzhou this time has offered good opportunities to promote further development of relations between China and Pacific Island countries. China will, as always, support the island countries to speed up development, and continue to provide assistance in its power; further expand and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation with the island countries in forestry, fishery, agriculture, infrastructure construction, transportation, communication, energy resources and other fields; increase imports of competitive products from the island countries; continue to support strong Chinese businesses with good reputations to invest in the island countries, and help enterprises of the island countries to explore the Chinese market; pay attention to the island countries' concerns on climate change, sustainable development, and other issues, and actively foster new growth points in clean energy, maritime science, and others; encourage more Chinese citizens to travel in the island countries to strengthen tourism cooperation, and to increase people-to-people and cultural exchanges.

The foreign officials thanked China's strong and long-term support and generous assistance in the development of the Pacific Island countries. They said that a series of cooperation programs on both sides since the first forum have actively contributed to the development of economy, society, education, and culture, sports and others, and are very popular with the people of the island countries. At present, the island countries are vigorously promoting the realization of their own development goals, and hope to be able to continue to get China's support and help. The island countries look forward to learning from the experiences of China's development, further expanding bilateral pragmatic cooperation in all fields, and strengthening people-to-people and cultural exchanges at all levels to promote bilateral relations to continue moving forward. The foreign officials reaffirmed their adherence to the One-China policy, and wished the forum a complete success this year.

Wang Yang and leaders of the island countries also jointly attended the signing ceremony of the bilateral economic and technological cooperation agreement.

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